

time in securing a capable minister, and by earnest work demonstrate the worthiness of the cause to which the sister churches so liberally contributed.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted, as read :

Be it Resolved, That the Christian Association assembled in convention at Summerside deeply regrets the attitude of the governments toward the liquor traffic, and exhorts all temperance workers to persevere in their efforts for the suppression of the liquor traffic, believing that finally right will prevail.

(Signed) D. CRAWFORD,
Chairman of Committee.

A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to the brethren of Summerside, and to Bro. R. W. Stevenson and all others who had helped make the meeting so successful.

Bro. Beattie responded; and after the audience had joined heartily in singing "God be with you," Bro. D. Crawford pronounced the benediction, and the people separated—strengthened, cheered and helped by their communion with each other—to meet, we trust again in annual convention at Cross-Roads, Lot 46, in 1900.

J. HARRY WILLIAMS,
Secretary.

Charlottetown, July 20, 1899.

THE CRISIS IN THE CHURCH.

The *Homeletic Review*, in a recent issue, insists that there is a crisis in the church, and makes a weak effort to locate the blame. After enumerating the great debts incurred by several home missionary societies during the past several years, the editor says: "There has been no general religious quickening. Thousands of churches of the leading denominations show not a single addition to their membership, and the rest have put forth comparatively little aggressive effort, so that the home work has languished with the foreign." The editor concludes by asking: "What is the matter?" and suggests that the ministry has lost faith in the word of God, and that Dr. Cuyler was right when he said: "Preaching to the unconverted has gone out of fashion." Just here we think the editor, though unconsciously, struck the key note. He has found the difficulty, but suggests no remedy. Denominationalism is on the wane, and the church that is untrue to God will fail in its efforts to save the world. The church that will live must "preach to the unconverted." "They that are whole need not a physician, but they that are sick." Here is the power of the plea of the Disciples of Christ, and these denominations that once looked down upon us with disdain are now being enumerated by the *Homeletic Review* as among the number who have "no general religious quickening," and as "not having a single addition to their membership." The field was never more ripe for aggressive, enterprising work than at present. The plea of the Disciples of Christ is gaining, and increased missionary offerings are manifest and with us there is no apparent crisis because we are at work. With this unrest men are reaching out for the truth as never before. Truly,

"We are living * * *
In a grand and awful time,
In an age on ages telling—
To be living is sublime."
—*Register-Review.*



ISAAC ERRETT.

We shall rejoice to see many delegates from the maritime provinces at the Jubilee Convention, October 13-20. The Queen city will be in her best clothes and the Disciples of Christ in their happiest mood. Come and share with us this wonderful convention. It will be worth something to see and join in song and prayer, to surround the Lord's table with ten thousand who believe in and seek for the oneness of the children of God.

Many countries will be represented, but we will be one in heart and purpose.

Canada! we welcome you!

A. M. HARVNOT,
Chairman Jubilee Convention.

SOME STRIKING THINGS IN FIFTY YEARS OF OUR HISTORY.

In an address delivered on invitation of the Jubilee Committee in the Central Christian Church, Cincinnati, on "Some striking things in fifty years of our history," E. L. Powell spoke in substance as follows concerning the great missionary enterprise:

"No one thing stands forth more conspicuously in these fifty years than the inauguration and earnest advocacy of our organized missionary work. It was the beginning of a new era in our history—an era which should not ignore the past but with clear vision should recognize new conditions, new problems and new methods. It was most emphatically a forward movement—a leap league stride. It brought us into touch with the very heart of the century, for the predominant note of the nineteenth century in the religious world is unquestionably missions. It certainly brought us into touch with the heart of Christ. I believe that by means of this work we have been delivered as a people from provincialism. Until this gracious task of missions claimed us, ours was indeed a limited world. From our front door we could see pretty much all the territory in which we were interested. It did not take long to survey our landscape. In a word, we were provincial. But when we awakened to the great truth that there were people "beyond the mountain" and that these people were our brothers, having the same need as ourselves of the divine life and love—then truly for us "there was no end to the sky." Our world suddenly became as big as the globe and we found that we could

not breathe any longer in our old time environment. Besides, this great, now enterprise saves us, I think, from *theological narrowness*. We had come to a point in our history when our very strength demanded some new outlet for our energy. If we had not taken to missions, we would have gone into the business of creed-building. Everything was favorable to the latter enterprise. We had tested our propositions in many a hard-fought battle and they had not been found wanting. We were beginning to feel proud of our theological weapons and skill in handling them. Then when our danger was greatest of loving a system more than souls, of exalting propositions at the expense of practical Christianity, of making our conclusions the test of fellowship rather than Christian character—then came this call to suffering and service in the mission fields of the world. Now, we are so busy proclaiming the simple gospel of Christ at home and abroad that we do not find time to quarrel with one another over questions that are remote from the great task of saving men and women from their sins. We have no time for creed-building, for our creed was long ago fashioned for us. Our business is to help rear the temple of a redeemed humanity by using the material which has already been prepared.

Again, I am inclined to believe that the mission enterprise has saved us, as a people, from a ruinous *self-conceit*. We have always had much to make us rather proud of ourselves. Time was when we were driving so successfully the various "isms" of the day—capturing the enemy sometimes "horse, foot and dragoon"—that we were beginning to think that we were the favorites of heaven. In a word, our profound conviction that we were right and our splendid success in the advocacy of "our position" led us dangerously near to *self-conceit*. But when we measured ourselves against the great business of missions—when the puny proportions of our right arm were made apparent by the tremendous load to be lifted—then we felt as never before our own insignificance and our supreme need of divine help and wisdom. Then we could appreciate the prayer of the Breton fisherman: "O, God, our boats are very small and thy sea is very large." The day of *self-conceit* for us has passed. The bigness of the work will keep us on our knees. Be it ours, as the years go by, to press nearer and still nearer to the front of the advancing host of mission workers. Before another fifty years shall have passed, let us be the vanguard of the mighty army, not leading in the spirit of boastful pride, but feeling and knowing that to be in the front of the work is to be closest to Christ.



C. M. LOOS,
President F. C. M. Society.